

# ***Book critique: “The Last Lecture”***

***Author: Randy Pausch***

***Jeffrey Zaslow***

**Chang Cao**

**YNCenter video conference, Nanjing**

**28<sup>th</sup> Mar, 2014**

# Book review

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- **The last lecture**
- Really achieving your childhood dreams
- Adventures and lessons learned
- **Enabling the dreams of others**
- It's about how to live your life
- Final remarks

# Randy Pausch

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October 23, 1960 Baltimore, Maryland, USA

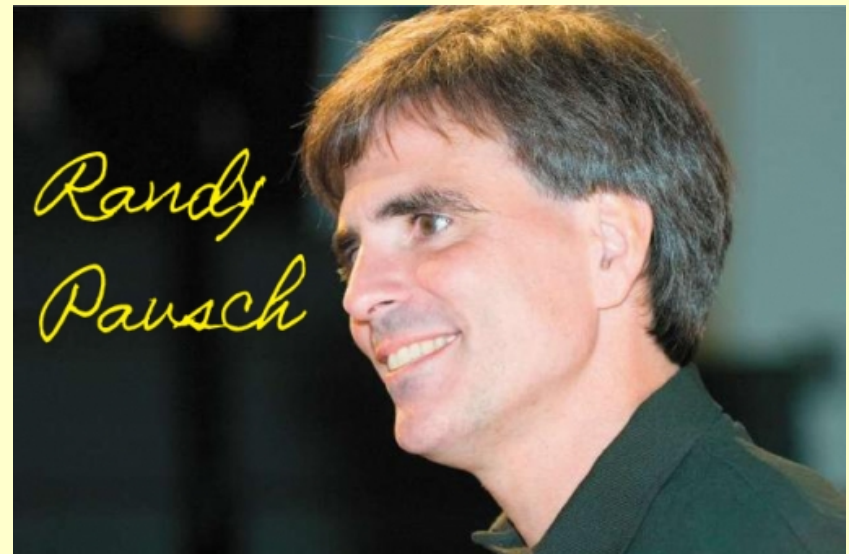
Bachelor's degree, Computer Science,  
Brown University, 1982

Ph.D, Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon  
University, 1988

He was granted tenure one year early in  
University of Virginia, 1988-1997

Professor of computer science and human-  
computer interaction and design, Carnegie  
Mellon University

Five books and over 60 papers (author or co-  
author)



# The Dream Fulfillment Factory



**Don Marinelli (Drama)**



**Carnegie Mellon**  
**Entertainment**  
**Technology**  
**Center**



**Randy Pausch (CS)**

(From Randy, 2007)

Chapter 26, 《The last lecture》



# Alice

## The Infinitely Scalable Dream Factory



(From Randy, 2007)

And I guess this makes me the mad hatter...



# Turning point (October 23, 1960 – July 25, 2008)

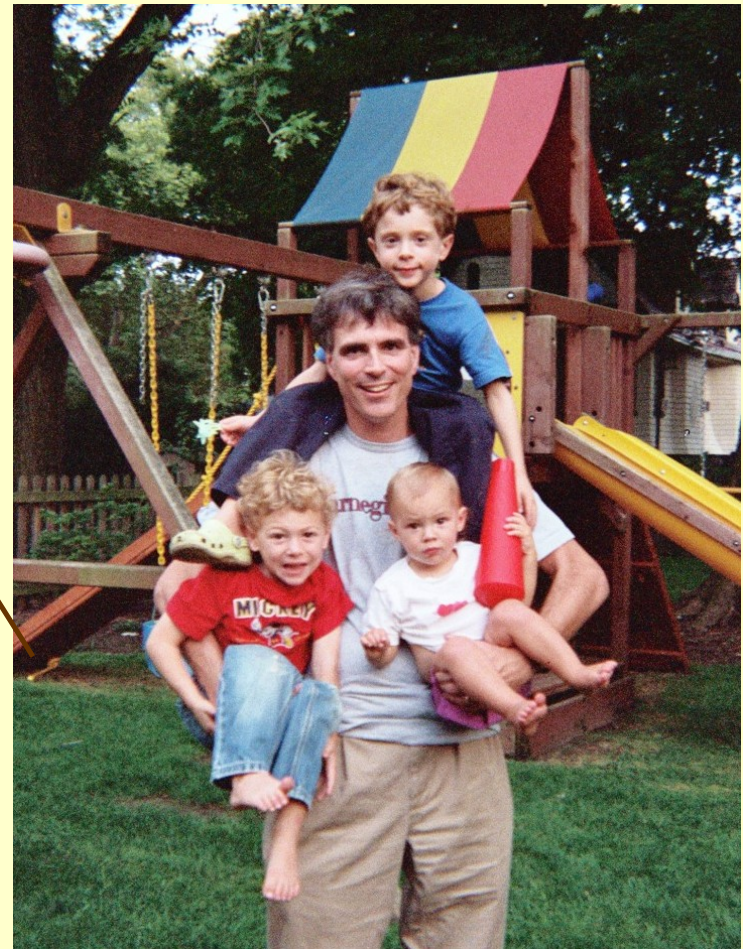
Pancreatic cancer (2006)

3 to 6 months to live (2007)

3 kids and his beloved wife...

*"to teach my children what I  
would have taught them over the  
next twenty years"*

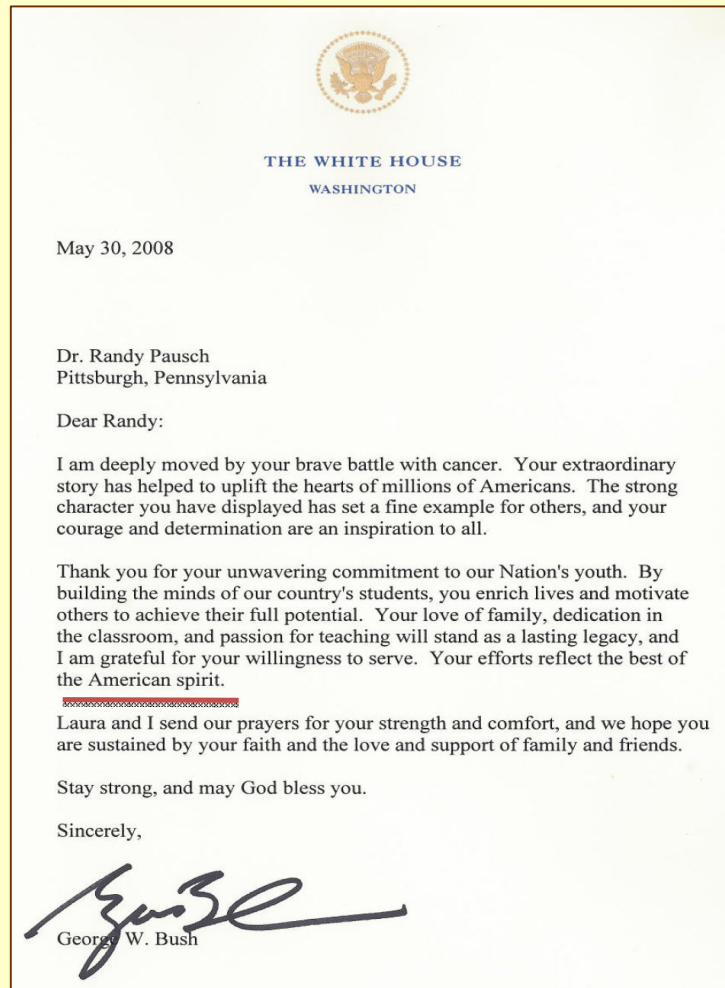
—Randy



# “Journeys” Lecture: Really achieving your childhood dreams (2007.9)

## Make the world stop and pay attention

(CMU website)



# Book review

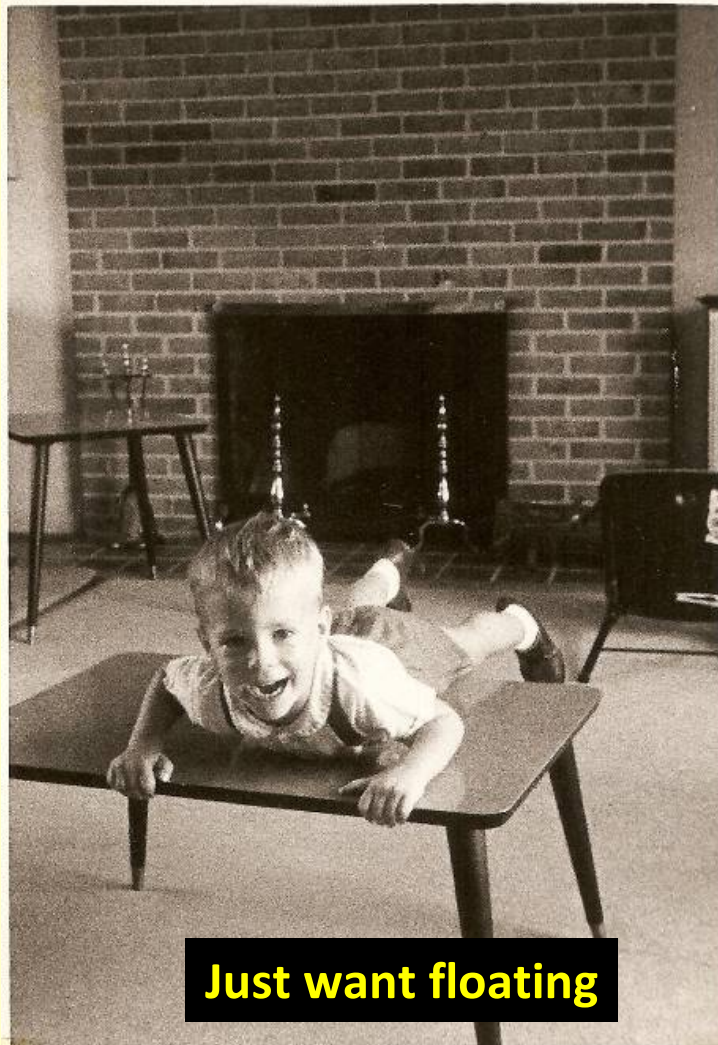
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# **Randy's Childhood dreams**



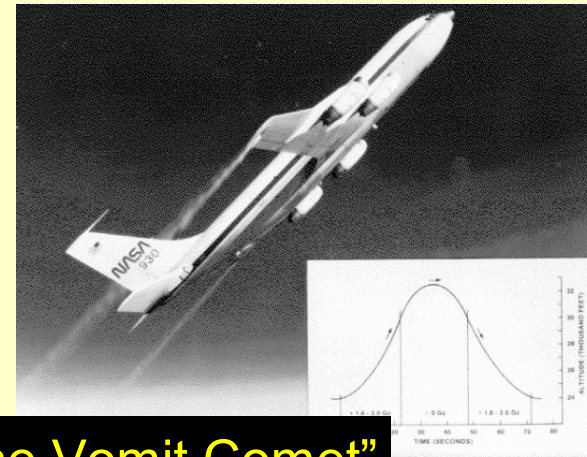
# Getting to Zero G



**Just want floating**

Have something to bring to the table, because that will make you more welcome.

Chapter 6



**“the Vomit Comet”**

# Play in the NFL



Fundamentals & hard work  
Build self-esteem

Your critics are often the one telling you they still love you and care about you, and want you to make you better.

Chapter 7

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## He Never Made it to the NFL

Experience is what you get when you did not get what you wanted.

Chapter 39



# Being an author in the *World Book Encyclopedia*



Need a dictionary to get  
through dinner

Chapter 4

Virtual reality

Chapter 8

# ~~Being/~~Meeting Captain Kirk



Leadership; in charge of morale

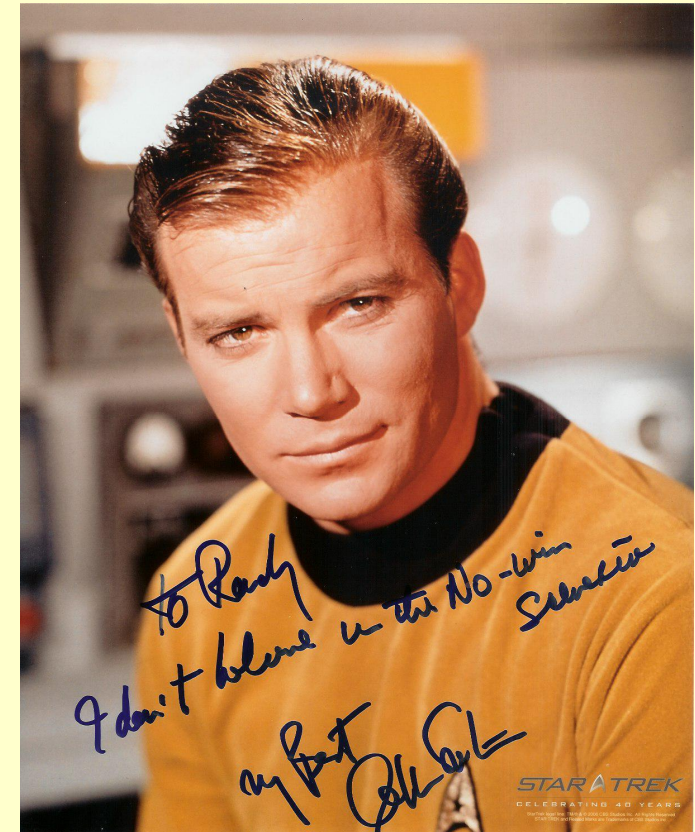
Chapter 9

**Chrisma**



**William Shatner**

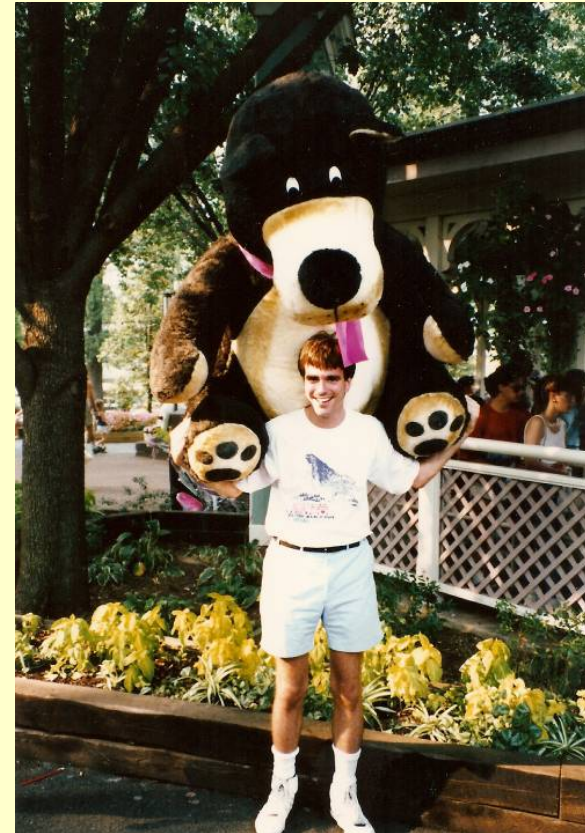
Who know what he does not know  
and willing to admit it, and does not  
want to leave until he understands.



I don't believe in the no-win scenario.



# Winning stuffed animals





**Robin Luo**

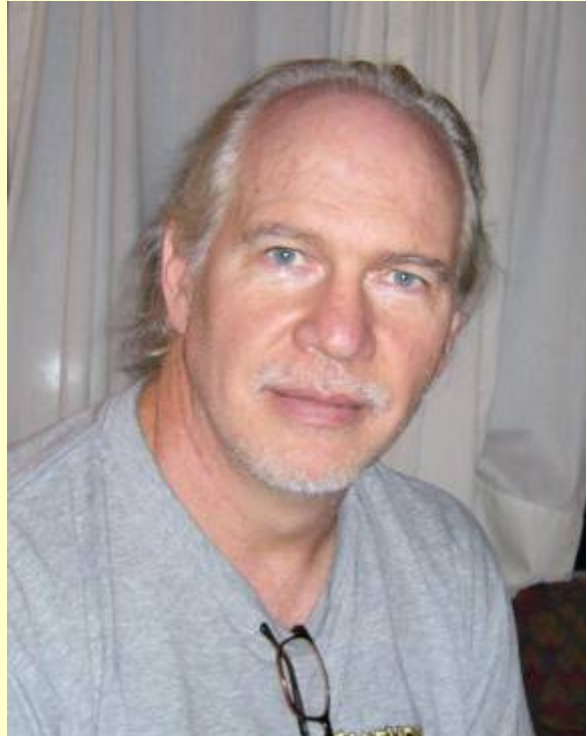


# Being an Imagineer



WALT DISNEY Imagineering

## **Jon Snoddy**



Turned him down when Randy got PhD  
Six-month sabbatical as an Imagineer in  
Walt Disney, 1995

Chapter 11



# Aladdin



**Brick walls are there for a reason: they let us prove how badly we want things.**



- Randy's childhood dreams nearly all related with his future career.
- Dream big dreams. If you have your own, live with them and stick on them.

**If you can dream, you can do it.**  
**-Walt Disney**

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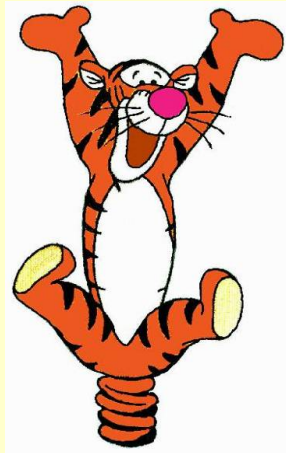
# Most impressed

- Personal improvement

## 1) Manage time :

To-do list; on the right things; creative/dead time

Chapter 23



Or



## 2) Be optimistic

Chapter 56

## 3) Full prepared/worst-case scenario

Chapter 36

Luck is indeed where preparation meets opportunity.

- Living with others

**Work in groups:** Let people talk; find things in common

Chapter 35

**Apology**

Chapter 47

★ **Look for the best of everybody**

Chapter 36

**Others-oriented**

# Randy Pausch Memorial Footbridge

Gates center for CS

Purnell center for the arts



**November 9<sup>th</sup>, Randy Pausch Day,  
Pittsburgh**



What makes me unique?

Having your **inner compass**.

# **Read more**

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Read beyond your field.

You are what you read.

# Make the most of each day!

If you lead your life the right way, the karma will take care of itself. The dreams will come to you.

-Randy

# Know more about Randy

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<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~pausch/news/index.html>

